

# MERCURY-REGISTER

## Adult school tops list of proposed cuts

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OROVILLE — Oroville Adult Education, Las Plumas High School's National Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program and some counselors continue to be headed to the chopping block in order to cut the Oroville Union High School District's budget by \$1.3 million.

Superintendent Oran Roberts recently submitted his official first round of recommended budget cuts to the board of trustees. Roberts will address the recommendations tonight at a board of trustees meeting. The board is not scheduled to vote on the cuts tonight.

Budget cuts are necessary because the district is getting less money from the state and enrollment continues to decline.

Although Roberts' list is the first official recommendation to the board, the trustees heard recommendations compiled by the budget advisory committee and the district advisory council last month.

The previous proposals included eliminating all high school counselors and two positions at Oroville Adult Education, among other cuts.

Since a public hearing May 19, some items previously listed are gone, while others have been changed.

The most notable change — and the biggest hit — is

a proposal to reduce Oroville Adult Education funds by \$740,000. The committees previously suggested cutting two adult ed positions at a savings of \$125,000.

The new list also suggests eliminating the Las Plumas High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, to save \$124,000.

Counseling jobs are still on the

block, but not to the extent previously recommended. Roberts' current recommendation pares two counselor positions, saving \$155,000.

Last month, the committees suggested eliminating the district's seven counselors to save \$538,000, but that met strong vocal opposition by the public. The proposal must be negotiated, according to the current document.

There are two other high-dollar program eliminations that are still recommended: the Prospect High School day care program, at \$80,000, and summer school at \$61,000.

Other recommendations include reducing district support of the Las Plumas-Oroville Alliance Marching Band by \$1,700 and lowering band mileage by \$2,000; eliminating the swim team; and slashing some funds for board members and the superintendent.

The district may also eliminate some clerical positions.

The board has to approve a budget by June 30. The cuts are for the 2010-11 and 2011-12 school years.

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Trustees will likely make final cuts later this month.

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